



## **State Interagency Coordinating Council for Tennessee's Early Intervention System**

October 23, 2013  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm (CT)

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **ICC Members in Attendance:**

Ned Andrew Solomon-TN Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Robyn Ridgley-Middle Tennessee State University  
Jacqueline Johnson-Department of Health  
Kiersten Kinder-Vanderbilt University, Susan Gray School  
Janet Coscarelli-Head Start  
Gail Crawford-Department of Human Services  
Kimberly O'Kelley-Wingate-University of Tennessee Chattanooga  
Kay Overby-Department of Children's Services

#### **ICC Guests in Attendance:**

Linda Hartbarger-Department of Education  
Catherine Goodwin-Department of Education  
Jill Rigsby-Department of Education  
Sarah Hunt-Child Development Centers  
Margaret Headrick- Tennessee Early Intervention System  
Teresa Winnette-Child Development Centers  
Amy Jenkins-Siskin Children's Institute  
Pat Cooper- TEIS  
Tonya Bowman-Family Voices  
Jill Rogers-LEAD  
Pam Hudson-Signal Centers  
Pam Isom-Newborn Screening  
Anita Teague-Child Development Centers  
Rebecca Robinson-TNAAP  
Kara Adams-Family Voices  
Michele Valade-Signal Centers  
Elizabeth Hailey-TEIS  
Juanita Kendrick-Project Memphis  
Jessica Beaver-Therapy and Learning Center  
Georgia Garrett-TEIS  
Heather Higgins-First Steps  
Ron Kwasigroh-Therapy and Learning Center  
Rebecca Robinson-TNAAP  
Carmen Santiago-Family Voices  
Beverly Bell-TEIS  
Anna Ramsbottom-Emory Valley Center  
Lise Earwood- Tennessee Early Intervention System  
Shannon Pargin-Department of Education  
Nora Jackson- Family Voices  
Rene Bard- TEIS  
Ruthe Threet-TEIS

[Type text]



[Type text]

Melinda Dellert-TEIS  
Kasey Mussared-Parent  
Michelle Wyatt-Susan Gray School  
Belinda Hotchkiss-TN Disability Coalition  
Barbara Thomas-TEIS  
Chase Davenport-Emory Valley Center

## **MEETING:**

### **Opening/Welcome**

SICC Chair Robyn Ridgley opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. The SICC members, lead agency staff, and guests introduced themselves and identified their respective agencies and roles.

### **Approval of Agenda**

The Agenda was approved.

### **Approval of Minutes of April Meeting**

Corrections were noted for July; the April and July minutes were approved.

### **Agency Presentation-Loraine Lucinski**

A power point presentation and handout were provided entitled Strong Beginnings Lasting Results: High Quality Early Childhood Systems Begin with Family Support at Birth. This gave an overview stressing that the most important stage for brain development is birth through 5 years of age.

### **Agency and Program Reporting**

Early Childhood IDEA Programs (ECIP) Staff Update-Linda Hartbarger

Linda introduced Shannon Pargin, Program Monitor and Karen Willis, Program Consultant for TEIS and 619 as new members for the Early Childhood central office.

The Johnson City TEIS office is still in great need of service coordinators. Greater Nashville TEIS is beginning to level off in terms of service coordination to the number of children served caseloads. East TN is continuing its efforts to increase awareness through child find but this also creates a domino effect increasing the number of children with service coordination needs.

Federal Update-Linda Hartbarger

Linda shared that the state OSEP contact Charlie Knisely is now involved with other duties and that Jenny Denny will now be the new state contact.

State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)-Catherine Goodwin

### **State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)**

Work on annual monitoring activities continues in preparation for the FFY 2013-14 APR, due February 2014. As mentioned in July, this will be the last SPP/APR submitted in the current format. The draft APR will be reviewed with SICC members at the January 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

### **State Strategic Improvement Plan (SSIP)**

Proposed changes for the SPP/APR, including the addition of a State Strategic Improvement Plan (SSIP) and the proactive work begun relative to the SSIP were discussed in July's meeting. In September, a

number of Early Childhood IDEA Programs (ECIP) staff attended the “Improving Data, Improving Outcomes” Conference in Washington D.C. sponsored by several federal TA Centers. While in D.C., federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) representatives commented that OSEP was supportive of states developing a single SSIP. This would mean a report on a specific topic that crosses Part C (TEIS) – Part B, 619 (Special Education Preschool) – Part B (Special Education K-12). ECIP staff presented the possible idea to Assistant Commissioner Joey Hassell. Assistant Commissioner Hassell was receptive to the concept of a single SSIP. He had already been made aware of this possible option for states. Our next step is to wait for further information from OSEP. The federal office will shortly release another version of the proposed SPP/APR, including SSIP with another short comment period. We have been informed that the upcoming version will be very close to the final document that states will use for reporting. The first SPP/APR, including the SSIP, is due February 2015.

#### Training Update-Jill Rigsby

Jill shared that there will be staff training for the Battelle tool in relation to testing items, measuring eligibility, mastery of skills.

Training on Evidence Based Practices with TEIS and TRIAD will be held on three separate dates during the latter part of October. There is some discussion to extend the training to EIRA offices. They will see what the offices needs are in relation to eligibility questions.

#### TN Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (TNAAP) Video Presentation-Rebecca Robinson

The video showed an example of the work that TEIS does that included Pediatrician Michelle Fiscus who provided a narrative along with service coordinator Andrea Stewart and parent Callie Gammon of a child that is currently receiving TEIS services.

### **ICC Business**

#### ICC Representative Update

Nominees are still awaiting signatures before going to the Governor’s office. A parent representative is still needed.

Kay Overbey with Department of Children’s Services is interested in becoming an ICC member.

### **Member Agency/Program Updates**

Janet Coscarelli stated that more babies are being born with drug addictions.

Gayle Crawford with Department of Human Services announced that they have a new Assistant Commissioner, Pat Wade.

Claudia introduced Kasey Mussared, parent of a special needs child that is receiving services with TEIS. Kasey is one of the many families that are stationed at Fort Campbell and has since started a program for military families to help raise awareness of her daughter’s rare condition.

Carmen Santiago left her business cards for members/guests to contact her if necessary.

### **Public Input**

None given

### **Topic requests for next meeting**

[Type text]



[Type text]

Janet Coscarelli suggested an advocacy letter written by SICC members regarding funding that would be addressed to state Senators and state Legislative Representatives.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

**Next ICC Meeting**

Tuesday, January 21, 2014